(vi) The El-Nino showed an anomalous behaviour in that, it weakened over the area off Peru coast during monsoon season but strengthened over West Pacific Ocean.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) is co-ordinating the Arabian Sea Monsoon Experiment (ARMEX) under Indian Climate Research Programme (ICRP) in two phases. The first phase was organised from 15 June to 15 August this year with the participation of a large number of national organisations. In order to understand development of small scale heavy rain producing systems associated with Offshore trough/vortex attempts were made to gather atmospheric and oceanic observations which were maximised during 'Intensive Observation Period'. These observations are being currently analysed by all the participating agencies. The second phase of ARMEX will be conducted from mid March to mid May 2003, in which observations will be collected to understand the development and collapse of warm pool in southeast Arbian Sea. The total picture will emerge only after the second phase is over.

Action has been initiated to develop the forecast models for the month-wise prediction of monsoon rainfall.

Import Export of HR Coils

450. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though Indian Steel Companies have adequate stock and production capacity to meet the domestic demand, import of HR Coils, to the extent of 2/3rd of the country's demand is allowed;

(b) whether it is a fact that exports of Indian HR Coils has stopped due to high anti-dumping and countervailing duties imposed in the USA, EU & Canada; and

(c) if so, the measures taken to provide relief to Indian manufacturers and contain resentment among them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY) : (a) As per the existing policy

import and export of iron and steel items are freely allowed. However, it is not a fact that 2/3rd of the country's demand for HR Coils is met through imports.

(b) As a result of high antidumping and countervailing duty imposed by USA, EU and Canada on Indian HR Coils, the exports to these countries has reduced considerably.

(c) To boost exports of iron and steel, Government has set up a Steel Exporters' Forum under the Chairmanship of the Development Commissioner for Iron & Steel with major steel producers/associations as its members to remove bottlenecks in exports. Some of the other measures taken by the Government to facilitate exports include full convertibility of export earnings at market rate of exchange, rationalization of DEPB rates and the facility available to exporters to import their requirements of raw materials duty free under the Advance Licensing Scheme.

Conspiracy relating to doping test for Sunita Rani

451. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian athlete Sunita Rani has been tested positive in doping test at the Asian Games in Busan;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Sunita Rani has denied any knowledge of having taken any drug;

(c) if so, whether the case has been investigated from the conspiracy angle;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any responsibility has been fixed on the manager and the doctor of the team?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Sports Authority of India (SAI) have instituted One Man Inquiry Committees to inquire into this incident. Report of